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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/633,523	08/05/2003	Takeshi Okada	03500.015395.1	5405
5514	7590	03/06/2006		EXAMINER
				OLSEN, ALLAN W
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1763	

DATE MAILED: 03/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/633,523	OKADA ET AL.	
	Examiner Allan Olsen	Art Unit 1763	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 December 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1,2,4-9,11 and 12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1,2,4-9,11 and 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 05 August 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/867,492.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1, 2, 4-9, 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent Application US 2004/0201048 of Seki et al. (hereinafter, Seki) in view of US Patent 5,470,760 issued to Nakai and further in view of the Fonash et al. US Patent Application Publication 2002/0187312 (hereinafter, Fonash).

Regarding claim 1, Seki teaches a method of forming an optical device wherein pixel demarcation is accomplished by forming resinous partition walls on a transparent substrate (see: [0154]). Seki teaches that the substrate having partition walls thereon, is dry etched with an oxygen plasma and then the substrate is subjected to a fluorine plasma treatment (see: [0055]). Seki teaches using an ink jet to apply ink to the pixels

(see, [0002]). Seki teaches the partitioning members may be formed using a black pigment ([0154]).

Regarding the claimed contact angles of claims 1 and 5, Seki teaches achieving contact angles that coincide with applicant's claimed angles (see, [0050]).

Regarding claim 6, Seki teaches using one of CF4, SF6 and CHF3 as the source of fluorine for the fluorine plasma treatment (see, [0050]).

Regarding claims 7 and 12, Seki teaches using a mixture of O2 and one of CF4, SF6 and CHF3 for the fluorine plasma treatment wherein the O2 comprises 25 % of the gas mixture (see: figure 9 and [0178]).

Regarding claims 8 and 11, Seki teaches using ink comprising a colored resin and water and an organic solvent (see: abstract and [0145] - [0160]).

Regarding claim 9, Seki teaches providing a black matrix on a transparent substrate ([0154]).

Seki does not teach using carbon black in the resinous partitioning members.

Nakai teaches adding carbon black to the resinous partition walls of an imaging device.

Fonash teaches that carbon black/polymer composites have contact angles greater than 100°.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to incorporate carbon black into the resinous partition walls of Seki because Seki teaches adding a black pigment while Nakai teaches that carbon black may be used as a black pigment in resinous

partition walls and Fonash teaches that carbon black/polymer composites provide contact angles on the magnitude desired by Seki.

Seki does not explicitly teach applicant's claimed results pertaining to the coarseness of the partition walls.

It would be obvious to one skilled in the art to carry out Seki's method according to the teachings of Seki. Because Seki and applicant use the same resinous material to form the partition walls and because Seki and applicant treat the resinous partition walls with the same plasma treatment, the skilled artisan is expected to achieve the same results that have been obtained by applicant.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claim December 19, 2005 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Allan Olsen whose telephone number is 571-272-1441. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 1-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Parviz Hassanzadeh can be reached on 571-272-1435. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1763

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Allan Olsen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1763